

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP2005/010747

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
B65G47/51

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

B65G

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	CA 2 364 216 A1 (PAPPAS, HARRY T) 7 June 2003 (2003-06-07) paragraph '0050!; figures 2,3A	1-8
A	US 4 549 647 A (COSSE ET AL) 29 October 1985 (1985-10-29) cited in the application the whole document	1-8
A	US 2003/085103 A1 (HORTON PAUL L ET AL) 8 May 2003 (2003-05-08) cited in the application the whole document	1-8



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

21 November 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

01/12/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
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Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Lawder, M

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP2005/010747

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
CA 2364216	A1	07-06-2003	NONE		
US 4549647	A	29-10-1985	CA DE DE EP ES FR GB	1212131 A1 3376643 D1 91856 T1 0091856 A1 8604826 A1 2524436 A1 2118125 A	30-09-1986 23-06-1988 07-06-1984 19-10-1983 01-08-1986 07-10-1983 26-10-1983
US 2003085103	A1	08-05-2003	CA EP JP WO US	2425694 A1 1390282 A1 2004522671 T 02072454 A1 2002125107 A1	19-09-2002 25-02-2004 29-07-2004 19-09-2002 12-09-2002

INTERNATIONAL RECHERCHENBERICHT

Internationales Aktenzeichen

PCT/EP2005/010747

A. KLASIFIZIERUNG DES ANMELDUNGSGEGENSTANDES
B65G47/51

Nach der Internationalen Patentklassifikation (IPK) oder nach der nationalen Klassifikation und der IPK

B. RECHERCHIERTE GEBIETE

Recherchierte Mindestprüfstoff (Klassifikationssystem und Klassifikationssymbole)
B65G

Recherchierte aber nicht zum Mindestprüfstoff gehörende Veröffentlichungen, soweit diese unter die recherchierten Gebiete fallen

Während der internationalen Recherche konsultierte elektronische Datenbank (Name der Datenbank und evtl. verwendete Suchbegriffe)

EPO-Internal

C. ALS WESENTLICH ANGESEHENE UNTERLAGEN

Kategorie ^a	Bezeichnung der Veröffentlichung, soweit erforderlich unter Angabe der in Betracht kommenden Teile	Betr. Anspruch Nr.
A	CA 2 364 216 A1 (PAPPAS, HARRY T) 7. Juni 2003 (2003-06-07) Absatz '0050!; Abbildungen 2,3A	1-8
A	US 4 549 647 A (COSSE ET AL) 29. Oktober 1985 (1985-10-29) in der Anmeldung erwähnt das ganze Dokument	1-8
A	US 2003/085103 A1 (HORTON PAUL L ET AL) 8. Mai 2003 (2003-05-08) in der Anmeldung erwähnt das ganze Dokument	1-8



Weitere Veröffentlichungen sind der Fortsetzung von Feld C zu entnehmen



Siehe Anhang Patentfamilie

- ^a Besondere Kategorien von angegebenen Veröffentlichungen :
- *A* Veröffentlichung, die den allgemeinen Stand der Technik definiert; aber nicht als besonders bedeutsam anzusehen ist
 - *E* älteres Dokument, das jedoch erst am oder nach dem Internationalen Anmeldedatum veröffentlicht worden ist
 - *L* Veröffentlichung, die geeignet ist, einen Prioritätsanspruch zweifelhaft erscheinen zu lassen, oder durch die das Veröffentlichungsdatum einer anderen im Recherchenbericht genannten Veröffentlichung belegt werden soll oder die aus einem anderen besonderen Grund angegeben ist (wie ausgeführt)
 - *O* Veröffentlichung, die sich auf eine mündliche Offenbarung, eine Benutzung, eine Ausstellung oder andere Maßnahmen bezieht
 - *P* Veröffentlichung, die vor dem internationalen Anmeldedatum, aber nach dem beanspruchten Prioritätsdatum veröffentlicht worden ist
- *T* Spätere Veröffentlichung, die nach dem internationalen Anmeldedatum oder dem Prioritätsdatum veröffentlicht worden ist und mit der Anmeldung nicht kollidiert, sondern nur zum Verständnis des der Erfindung zugrundeliegenden Prinzips oder der ihr zugrundeliegenden Theorie angegeben ist
- *X* Veröffentlichung von besonderer Bedeutung; die beanspruchte Erfindung kann allein aufgrund dieser Veröffentlichung nicht als neu oder auf erfinderischer Tätigkeit beruhend betrachtet werden
- *Y* Veröffentlichung von besonderer Bedeutung; die beanspruchte Erfindung kann nicht als auf erfinderischer Tätigkeit beruhend betrachtet werden, wenn die Veröffentlichung mit einer oder mehreren anderen Veröffentlichungen dieser Kategorie in Verbindung gebracht wird und diese Verbindung für einen Fachmann nahellegend ist
- *&* Veröffentlichung, die Mitglied derselben Patentfamilie ist

Datum des Abschlusses der Internationalen Recherche	Absendedatum des Internationalen Recherchenberichts
21. November 2005	01/12/2005
Name und Postanschrift der Internationalen Recherchenbehörde Europäisches Patentamt, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Bevollmächtigter Bediensteter Lawder, M

INTERNATIONALES RECHERCHENBERICHT

Angaben zu Veröffentlichungen, die zur selben Patentfamilie gehören

Internationales Aktenzeichen

PCT/EP2005/010747

Im Recherchenbericht angeführtes Patentdokument		Datum der Veröffentlichung	Mitglied(er) der Patentfamilie		Datum der Veröffentlichung
CA 2364216	A1	07-06-2003	KEINE		
US 4549647	A	29-10-1985	CA DE DE EP ES FR GB	1212131 A1 3376643 D1 91856 T1 0091856 A1 8604826 A1 2524436 A1 2118125 A	30-09-1986 23-06-1988 07-06-1984 19-10-1983 01-08-1986 07-10-1983 26-10-1983
US 2003085103	A1	08-05-2003	CA EP JP WO US	2425694 A1 1390282 A1 2004522671 T 02072454 A1 2002125107 A1	19-09-2002 25-02-2004 29-07-2004 19-09-2002 12-09-2002

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

PCT
TRANSLATION

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

		Date of mailing (day/month/year)	See Form PCT/ISA/210 (sheet 2)
Applicant's or agent's file reference patha/1029WO		FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below	
International application No. PCT/EP2005/010747	International filing date (day/month/year) 06.10.2005	Priority date (day/month/year) 16.10.2004	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC B65G47/51			
Applicant KRONES AG			

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I | Basis of the opinion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. II | Priority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. III | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VI | Certain documents cited |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application |

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(h) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.
PCT/EP2005/010747

Box No. I	Basis of this opinion
1.	With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item. <input type="checkbox"/> This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2.	With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of: a. type of material <input type="checkbox"/> a sequence listing <input type="checkbox"/> table(s) related to the sequence listing b. format of material <input type="checkbox"/> in written format <input type="checkbox"/> in computer readable form c. time of filing/furnishing <input type="checkbox"/> contained in the international application as filed. <input type="checkbox"/> filed together with the international application in computer readable form. <input type="checkbox"/> furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4.	Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.	PCT/EP2005/010747
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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
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1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1-8</u>	YES
	Claims _____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>1-8</u>	YES
	Claims _____	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-8</u>	YES
	Claims _____	NO

2. Citations and explanations:

1. Reference is made to the following document:

D1: CA 2 364 216 A1.

2. Document D1 discloses an apparatus 100 for the buffer-storage of objects, having two parallel conveyors 3, 5 which can be driven in opposite directions, and having a transfer arrangement 17, 4 which can be displaced along the conveyors by means of an at least one linear guide 25, 26 and is intended for transferring the objects between the conveyors (the at least one linear guide 25, 26 being arranged at a distance beneath a conveyor).

The subject matter of claim 1 differs from the apparatus of D1 in that the at least one linear guide is arranged at a distance above a conveyor. This feature allows the linear guide to be protected against the action of fragments, liquids, etc.

This feature is not known from the available prior art or suggested by it.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
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International application No.
PCT/EP2005/010747

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

The current claim 1 is thus novel and inventive and thus meets the requirements of PCT Article 33(2) and (3).

- 2.1 Claims 2-8 are dependent on claim 1 and thus likewise meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step.